

Message Text

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ORIGIN DLOS-09

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DRAFTED BY S/AR:AGJAMES/MW
APPROVED BY S/AR - AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON
D/LOS:ABERLIND
ARA/MEX:ECBITTNER (DRAFT)
-----029590 040252Z /61
P 032250Z OCT 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 238215

STADIS/////////////////
FOR AMBASSADOR LUCEY FROM AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS, XF

SUBJECT: LOS - US-MEXICO BILATERAL MEETING

1. AS YOU KNOW, JORGE CASTANEDA PLAYED AN IMPORTANT AND CONSTRUCTIVE PART IN THE LAST SESSION OF THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE. HE WAS PARTICULARLY EFFECTIVE IN ORGANIZING AND PRESIDING OVER INFORMAL TALKS ON A SERIES OF RELATED ISSUES IN COMMITTEE II AND III AND DISPUTE SETTLEMENT WHICH MATERIALLY ADVANCED THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE AND WHICH, AS FAR AS US INTERESTS ARE CONCERNED, RESULTED IN SIGNIFICANT GAINS BY CONSOLIDATING HIGH SEAS RIGHTS IN THE ECONOMIC ZONE. MINISTER JENS EVENSEN OF NORWAY PLANS TO CONVENE A SMALL PRIVATE MEETING OF SELECTED HEADS OF DELEGATION IN GENEVA IN MID-NOVEMBER TO ASSESS THE OUTLOOK FOR THE CONFERENCE AND TO ADDRESS PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS WHICH ARE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE FOR THE UNITED STATES. EVENSEN
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AND I DISCUSSED THIS MEETING LAST WEEK IN WASHINGTON. I TOLD HIM I WOULD ATTEND, AND WE BOTH AGREED CASTANEDA WOULD BE AN INDISPENSABLE PARTICIPANT. I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE VERY DESIRABLE FOR ME TO HAVE A THOROUGH DISCUSSION WITH CASTANEDA IN ADVANCE OF THE GENEVA MEETING.

2. ACCORDINGLY, IF YOU PERCEIVE NO OBJECTION, I WOULD

APPRECIATE YOUR CONVEYING THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM ME
TO CASTANEDA:

3. BEGIN TEXT: DEAR JORGE: JENS EVENSEN CAME TO
WASHINGTON LAST WEEK FOR INFORMAL TALKS ABOUT THE INTER-
SESSIONAL WORK OF THE CONFERENCE. HE PROPOSES TO CONVENE
A SMALL PRIVATE MEETING OF HEADS OF DELEGATION, PROBABLY
IN MID-NOVEMBER IN GENEVA, TO DISCUSS CONFERENCE PROCEDURES
AND HOW A REASONABLE NEGOTIATING BASE MIGHT BE ESTABLISHED
TO CARRY FORWARD THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE. I TOLD EVEN-
SEN THAT, WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE POLICY REVIEW WE ARE
NOW CONDUCTING, I WOULD ATTEND THIS MEETING, FOR I BELIEVE
IT COULD PROVIDE A USEFUL OPPORTUNITY FOR ME TO GAUGE THE
PROSPECTS FOR FINDING A REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION OF VIEWS
ON SEABEDS ISSUES. I UNDERSTAND EVENSEN WILL SHORTLY BE
IN TOUCH WITH YOU ABOUT ATTENDING SUCH A MEETING. I VERY
MUCH HOPE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO DO SO, FOR WE ALL WOULD BENE-
FIT FROM YOUR LEADERSHIP AND WISE COUNSEL.

I WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO HAVE A FULL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH
YOU WELL IN ADVANCE OF THE GENEVA MEETING. I WONDER WHE-
THER YOU EXPECT TO BE IN WASHINGTON OR NEW YORK IN THE
COMING WEEKS. IF YOU DO NOT, I WOULD BE VERY PLEASED TO
VISIT YOU IN MEXICO. FOR YOUR INFORMATION, I PLAN TO
LEAVE FOR EUROPE ABOUT NOVEMBER 4 WHERE I EXPECT TO SPEND
A WEEK PRIOR TO THE EVENSEN MEETING.
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IF YOU AGREE THAT OUR MEETING WOULD BE USEFUL, PLEASE LET
ME KNOW THROUGH AMBASSADOR LUCEY.

I HOPE I WILL HAVE THE PLEASURE OF SEEING YOU SOON AND RE-
NEWING AN ASSOCIATION WHICH I PRIZE HIGHLY.

WITH WARMEST PERSONAL REGARDS. SINCERELY, ELLIOT L.
RICHARDSON. END TEXT

4. I WOULD BE PLEASED IF CASTANEDA SUGGESTED I SEE HIM
IN MEXICO CITY FOR IT WOULD GIVE ME A WELCOME OPPORTUNITY
TO SEE YOU AGAIN. I HOPE YOU ARE FINDING YOUR MISSION
ENJOYABLE AND REWARDING. WITH KIND REGARDS.

CHRISTOPHER

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